

Paschalia

Movable Feasts and Other Church Seasons

The movable feasts and other seasons depend on Pascha with a known number of days forward and backwards.

The Mid-feast is 25, Ascension is 40, Pentecost is 50, and the Sunday of All Saints is 56 days after Pascha. St. Peter's Lent is from the Sunday of All Saints until June 29. The beginning of the Triodion is 70 days, Meat-fare is 56, and Cheese-fare is 49 days before Pascha.

The following formulas will precisely determine the calculations in every year:

The Triodion begins	In a simple year	10 January + key
	In a leap year	11 January + key
Meat-fare begins	In a simple year	24 January + key
	In a leap year	25 January + key
Cheese fare begins	In a simple year	Key of February
	In a leap year	1 February + key

The Mid-feast begins on April 14 + the key. Ascension begins on April 29 + the key. Pentecost begins on May 1 + the key. St. Peter's Lent begins on May 15 + the key. St. Peter's Lent lasts for 43 key days. The Nativity of Christ meat eating days last for 31 + the key days in a simple year, 32 + the key days in a leap year.

The Use of the Visible Paschalia

According to the Paschal Table in the Liturgical Psalter and the Typicon in order to find the day of celebrating Pascha, notice the key letter in the first part (*the Reference Indiction*) opposite the given year and, then, find this key letter in the second part (*the Visible Paschalia*). Under this letter, the day of celebrating Pascha with everything depending on it, the feasts and church seasons, is specified. Therefore, remember that the church year begins September 1, i.e. it anticipates the civil New Year by four months. That is why the required week day of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in civil notation calculated under the Key Letter will not concern this year, but the previous year. Placed for our use below is Table IV with all the data, including the visible Paschalia according to the church liturgical service books.

Paschalia

For those interested persons who wish to check the results of their calculations according to the rules of the Paschalia, or to facilitate these calculations, or to do without them and directly find the Dominical Letter for the given year, the day of the week of the given number, the time of celebrating Pascha, explanatory columns and so forth, six tables are located below.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) p 0643
Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris © 7/7/2004. All rights reserved.*